

Name: John Nees

Office Serving: Elder

Married: Lynn Nees - 6 January 1990

Family: Daniel (1991), Clara (1993), Sylvia (1998)

Years at St. Luke: 1995 to present

Please answer one of the following three questions.

1. Where have you seen Jesus active in at least one of our growth environments?

My church home, my everyday communities, my discipling relationships.

2. How have you seen our mission statement lived out in your life?

Seeking everyone's story ...sharing in His story.

3. Tell a story of how you have experienced one of our core values.

Openness to people and expression.

Faithfulness to complex truth.

Connection through authentic relationships.

Dependence on Jesus.

There is great comfort in being an adopted child of the Almighty God, but that does not mean it is simple. This past year the experience of living out that relationship has been marked on all sides by challenges. Watching over the health and well-being of my family and maintaining concern for particularly vulnerable people in my immediate circle in the midst of an uncertain pandemic has been challenging. We have all been met with the challenge of a crippling political divide. While the future holds further uncertainty in both of these matters, I am still satisfied that God will provide all that is needed to meet these challenges through His Spirit, who lives in me, and through His sovereign action in the world. He has told me to work out my salvation with fear and trembling because He is at work in me to will and to do the good He purposes (Philippians). The complex part of this truth is that the outcome is not directly visible. Right now, it involves giving and receiving love and care in our small group, sharing with the church and with the homeless shelter, and praying for the health and well-being of our country and our world. Heaven knows what it will become in the end. For now, my wife and I appreciate the love we feel here at St. Luke.